

HORRIBLE BURNS

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FADE IN:

INT. MAGICAL UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE - DAY

WILL BURNS, a dragon, stands next in line at the Magical Unemployment Office. All sorts of depressed MAGICAL BEINGS are in line with Will. JUNIE, a sassy unicorn, stands behind a counter interviewing people looking for jobs.

WILL
(to himself)
All right, Will. Keep it together.
If things don't go well, don't lose
it like last time.

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. MAGICAL UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE - ON FIRE

Magical beings SCREAM and run from the burning inferno. Will barrels through the doors of the building and sends flames shooting through the streets.

RETURN TO SCENE

JUNIE
Next.

Will walks up to the counter. Junie has her eyes down, CLACKING on the keys of a computer.

WILL
(upbeat)
Hi, Junie!

Junie looks up. Her eyes go wide. She grabs a megaphone.

JUNIE
(into megaphone)
Will Burns is in the office. I
repeat, Will Burns is in the
office.

A SIREN BLARES. Four groups of ELVES with fire hoses appear and aim at Will, ready to douse him in water.

JUNIE (CONT'D)
Much better. How can I help you,
Mr. Burns?

WILL

Still having no luck finding a job,
Junie.

JUNIE

I bet it's on account of that
terrible temper of yours.

Will glares at Junie, then shakes his head and smiles.

WILL

You're probably right, Junie, but
I'm working on that.

JUNIE

(sarcastic)
I'm sure you are.

WILL

Can you just help me out?

JUNIE

Do you have any special skills?

WILL

Seriously? I've been here seventeen
times before! Do we have to go
through this every time?

Junie stares at Will blankly.

WILL (CONT'D)

Fine. First skill: fire breathing.

JUNIE

Mmmhmm. We all know about that one.

WILL

Second skill: Knight eating.

JUNIE

The positions in Knight Population
Management have already been
filled.

WILL

Last skill: Treasure hoarding.

JUNIE

Remember working at the bank and
getting so angry when someone tried
to take out a deposit that you
melted all the gold? I'm not
letting you anywhere near treasure.

Will grits his teeth and smoke comes out of his ears.

WILL
(through gritted teeth)
Junie, please.

JUNIE
Calm down, Mr. Burns. Can't you
take a joke?

Junie CLACKS away at her computer.

JUNIE (CONT'D)
Mmm. Mmm. Okay. Nope. It looks like
there's nothing here for you today,
Mr. Burns.

Flames come out of Will's nostrils. Water from one of the elf
hoses shoots Will in the face. Will COUGHS and SPUTTERS.

WILL
What was that for?

An ELF walks toward Will with his hands in the air.

ELF
Just trying to put out those
flames, Mr. Burns. We don't want a
repeat of last time. Now if you
will please exit the premises.
Calmly.

WILL
Fine!

Will stomps out of the Unemployment Office, red with anger.

WILL (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Keep it together, Will. Keep it
together!

EXT. CITY STREETS - CONTINUOUS

Will gets redder and redder as he walks.

WILL
I've got bills to pay! Scale polish
doesn't come cheap, you know? I
just can't take it!

Flames shoot out of Will's nostrils right into BIGFOOT
BETTY'S HAIRSTYLING kiosk.

As BETTY styles the hair of another SASQUATCH, Will's flames hit a stream of hair spray, sending a giant ball of fire at the Sasquatch being styled and singes off all of her fur.

BETTY
Hey! Watch it!

WILL
Don't you tell me to (beat) Sorry.
(to himself)
You really need to calm down, Will.

Will walks down the street and sees a movie theater with a large poster for CALM OCEAN WAVES 4.

WILL (CONT'D)
How oddly appropriate.

CUT TO:

INT. MOVIE THEATER - DAY

The concessions stand is in chaos. The popcorn machine isn't working and CUSTOMERS are furious. The MANAGER, a fairy, flies around trying to get the popcorn machine to work.

MANAGER
Why won't this confounded thing
work?

The manager jiggles the machine's power cord. Sparks zap the manager, causing a pile of fairy dust to fly out of his rear end. Will walks in and speaks to LARRY, a dry leprechaun reminiscent of Ben Stein, who mans the box office.

WILL
One for Calm Ocean Waves 4, please.

LARRY
That will be two rubies.

WILL
I'm running kinda low on treasure.
Can I get an I-O-U?

Larry indicates a sign next to the box office.

LARRY
Company policy strictly dictates
that no knight eating, treasure
hoarding, fire breathing dragons
shall get in without payment.

WILL
(growing angry)
I could really use a calming movie
right now.

LARRY
Couldn't we all?

WILL
Please. We live in a magic world
and please is the magic word,
right?

LARRY
Not in the movie industry.

WILL
Come on!

Will ROARS with anger and sends flames straight into the concessions stand. Popcorn pops and flies everywhere. The concessions crowd CHEERS. The manager flies up to Will.

MANAGER
You're hired!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. MOVIE THEATER - CONCESSIONS STAND

Will, dressed as a movie theater usher, uses his flames to pop popcorn. A TROLL holding popcorn approaches the concessions stand.

TROLL
You burnt my popcorn!

Will glares at the troll and sends a small jet of flames at him. A tuft of the troll's hair catches on fire.

TROLL (CONT'D)
On second thought, this popcorn is
perfect.

WILL
That's what I thought.

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW